G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

Legis 12 of 1907
(Legis 15 of 05)

1908.-09
(Legislation)

File No. 360 of 190

Serial Nos. 1-12

Later references.

58.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-12

Part B for March 1917

SUBJECT.

Amendment of the Game Rules and Measures necessary for the protection of ga

---

For orders please see Legis in which Revised Rules have been

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

2/14

G.R.S.11]

1908. 05

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Legislation)

NOTES.

File No. 36

FILE HEADING.

Amendment of the game rules and measures necessary for the protection of game.

From

The Asst. Resident in Mysore.

No. 1164 Dated 23/4/09 Received 29/4/09

Diary No. 3939 | Enclos. 2 | Spare Copies - | Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Forwards, for consideration and such action as may be practicable, a letter from Mr Hanson, Supdt. of Post-offices, Shimoga, complaining of the wanton destruction of game that is going on in Shimoga and adjoining districts and suggests measures necessary for remedying the same.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

1. Mr Hanson attributes the wanton destruction of game that is going on to

1) the large number of licensed and unlicensed guns in the villages and the facility this affords to possessors of guns [illegible] for obtaining

NOTES—First sheet

GPB—30,000—3-4-07.

Serial No.

purpose of protecting crops & also game such as bison, sambhur and spotted deer.

(2) The ready local market for sale of hides of all description.

(3) The inadequacy of Cantonment & District and reserved forests.

His suggestions to remedy the state of affairs are set forth in para 10 of his letter page 5 to 7.

This is not the first time for which the proposal for the employment of game watchers has been made. A similar proposal was made by the Deputy Commissioner of Hassan so far back as January 1908, at the instance of the Game & Fish Preservation Association. It was then ordered that no case had been made out for the employment of any such establishment which meant further harassment to sportsmen.

H.Q. Legis. 15-05-4

3. The proposal has been reported by the officer in charge of the Game Preserves in his proposals for the amendment of Game Rules and Rules. This is under consideration.

4. Perhaps the opinion of the Conservator of Forests may be called on some of these points.

Serial No.

and then the subject considered along with the proposed amendment of the Game rules now under consideration.

Secy's order

29/9/08 CW 29-9-08

5. The representation made by Mr Hawkins is very interesting and there are some matters which deserve careful consideration at the hands of Govt. But the whole subject of amending Game laws is already under the consideration and the opinions of leading Sportsmen etc are invited on the amendments suggested by the Game Office. Mr Hawkins proposals may also be considered along with the opinions that may be received on the subject.

5/5 SH

6/

Hon'ble Councillor

Please send copy of Mr Hawkins letter, to the Conservator of Forests, Deputy Conservators & Revenue Commissioners, the Honorary Secretary Game

NOTE—Contn. sheet

GPH—50.000—18-5-08

Serial No.

Associations, Sub-Divisions
and Societies their opinion
on the General proposals
made therein.

8/5/09 Copy sent.

1. Draft submitted for approval.
10/5/09 10/5

8. 2 Issues

10/5

To the Conservator of Forests in Mysore,
Deputy Commissioners of Districts, Revs. Comdg
Honorary Secretary Mysore Game and
Fish Preservation Association, Sakleshpur
No J 3590-600 of 18th May 09.

Forwards a copy of the
letter received with Statement of Issues
Reserve for favour of their opinion
on the proposals made therein.

3 From the Hon Secy Mysore Game
and Fish Preservation Association,
Dated the 26th May 09

Forwards the opinion of the Association on the subject under consideration
viz that the remarks made by Mr

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.	
	Hauson are facts, that the Game Regulation is not at all observed and that Special men Europeans of active habits are to be appointed to superviss the working of the Regulation and to enquire to book cases of infringements of the same.
4	From the Revenue Commr. in Mysore, No. 13394 dt. 21st. June 09. States that the proposals of Mr Hauson are sound enough from the standpoint of a sportsman but that in the interests of landholders and labouring classes further protection is unnecessary, as the wild animals have already been complained of as a standing menance to the crops and the safety of the ryots.
5	From the Conservator of Forests in Mysore No. 10928 dt. 28th June '09. Submits his remarks on the proposals of Mr Hauson.

GPB—50.000—13-5-08

THE RESIDENT MYSORE

BANGALORE.

No. 5229 Dated the 7th August 1909.

Dear Mr. Ananda Rao,

Will you please refer to this office letter No. 2464 -- dated the 23rd April 1909, forwarding a letter from Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of post Offices, Shimoga Division, on the ------ subject of the Mysore Game and Fish Regulation II of 1901.

Mr. Fraser will be glad to be informed whether any action in the matter has been taken or is contemplated.

Yours sincerely

To

T. Ananda Rao, Esq.,

Dewan of Mysore.

K.M.

Serial No.

Pursuant to the draft D.O. reply is submitted for approval.

10/8/09

10/8/09

Secy

to

Next make clean copy of draft as revised & submit to Dewan

11/8/09

11/8/09

Clean copy of the draft is herewith submitted

11.8.09 12/8

12/8/09

2021 12/8/09 Dewan The DO has been issued from the Dewan's office.

16 Aug 09.

18/8/09

18/8/09

Fair draft

Approved Typed &c.

Proof

Secy.

G.R.S. 26]

File No. 36

Serial No. 64

Diary No. of letter replied to _____

No. 222 dated 13/15 Aug 09.

D.O.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, *the* 190 .

To [~~Dear Mr Copeland.~~]

(2) In reply to the enquiry made in your D.O. no. 5227 dated the 7th Aug. 09 as to what action has been taken on Mr Hauson's representations regarding the protection of game in the State, I write to say that the subject has been referred to the Deputy Commissioner of Districts, the Conservator of Forests, the Revenue Commissioner and the Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Association for opinion and that on receipt of their replies, the Durbar will

P.T. over.

Date of issue _____

Signed by _____

SUBJECT.

Consider whether any special measures beyond those already in force are necessary or desirable

yours etc.

Secretary

Sd/-
SW
12/8/05

T. B. Copland Esqre I.C.S.
First Asstt to the Hon'ble the Resident
in Mysore.

List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by

MGCPB—30,000—16-2-05

Serial No.	
6	No 1043 dated 3/10/09 from the Dt Magistrate Chitaldrug. Furnishes his opinion on the above
7	No 151 dated 30/8/09 from the Dt Magistrate Mysore Dt. States that the proposals made by Mr Hanson are very stringent
8	No 153 dated 1/9/09 from the Dt Magistrate Dumkur Dt. Furnishes his opinion on the above stating that all that is necessary is to exercise a close watch on the sale of skins in each Dt and their export along rail or road and that some of the suggestions made by Mr Hanson may be adopted
9	No 90 dated 10/9/09 from D. C. Kadur. Forwards his views on the suggestions made by Mr Hanson
10	No S. 292 dated 23/11/09 from D. C. Bangalore Dt. States that the Rules as in force afford ample protection for all kinds of game and that there is no necessity for any amplification of those rules
11	No 6369/21 dated 8/11/10 from the Dt Magistrate Kolar. Suggests placing restrictions upon export of skins and does not approve of proposal to

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50.000—13-5-08

G. R S. 12
General and Revenue
Secretariat.

Legis File No. 36 of 1908-09

Serial No.	
	and approves of proposal No VIII
12	No 462 dated 13/4/10 from the 2nd 275 Magistrate Shimoga
	does not approve of ~~suggestion~~ certain suggestions of Mr Hanson and approve of certain some of them.
(3)	D.O. reminder to Dt. Magistrate Hassan was issued on 25/5/16 as No J. 2640 of 25/5/16.
	Extract from the minutes of members orders on file J. No 1645-15.
	"21. Please work up the case with information available as soon as possible
	L.W. A.R.B. 29/5/16
	Subd.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—55,000—27-4-09

Serial No.

Not placed in that file

4) A statement showing the opinions of the several officers consulted on the various proposals of the Mr Hanson is put up in the linked file Legis. 12 of 1907-08

26/6/16

To file.

5) Of the nine suggestions made by Mr Hanson, the suggestions nos 5 & 6 have the general approval of the many officers who were consulted. As regards no 5, a draft Bill to regulate the traffic in skins, hides &c is now under the consideration of Government and any definite order at this stage may not be necessary or expedient to pass. There is also a preponderance of opinion in favour of restricting the number of special game which can be killed by a licensed shikari in a year (Sir [illegible]) A similar rule is in force in most of the provinces of British India, and if approved, a rule to that effect may be added to the proposed amendment of the Rules now pending Government. The other suggestions are not approved by the majority of officers whose opinions were solicited.

EB 22/7

6) Secretary) We may deal with the Note in one file & Urgent. (Legislative file) 25/7/16

GPB—55,000—27-4-09

G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | Legs File No. 36 of 1918

Serial No.	
	(7) The whole question was dealt with in Legis. 12 of 1907-08 and orders revising rules issued vide G.O. No. G 3405-W-Legis 12-07-26 of 17/3/17 and Notifications No. G 3499-Legis 12-07-27 of 16/3/17 and G 3400-Legis 12-07-25 of 16/3/17
	Ok.

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

G.P.B.—70,000—17-12-15

No. 2464

Encs 2

FROM

T. B. COPELAND, ESQ., I. C. S.,
FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 23rd April 1909.

SIR,

I am directed to forward herewith, for consideration and such action as may be practicable, a letter (in original) from Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, to the address of the Secretary to the Government of Mysore, with enclosure thereto, on the subject of the Mysore Game and Fish Regulation II of 1901.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. Copeland

First Assistant Residen

NNM

18

Shimoga,
10th April 1909.

Encl to 8

From

Mr. R. W. HANSON,
Superintendent of Post Offices,
Shimoga Division.

To

The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Sir,

As suggested by Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, C.I.E., the late Dewan, during the interview which he was pleased to accord to me on the occasion of his last visit to Shimoga, I have the honor to address you on the subject of the Mysore Game and Fish Regulation II of 1901.

2. Frequent tours through the Shimoga and adjoining districts during the past three years and more, have forced on my attention the fact that game is being wantonly destroyed in most parts owing to the following causes:-

Extermination of game.

(i) The large number of licensed and unlicensed guns in villages.

(ii) The ready local market for sale of hides of all descriptions.

(iii) The inadequacy of the existing control over district and reserved forests.

3. There is not the slightest doubt that the guns kept for the ostensible purpose of protecting crops, are largely used

Licensed and unlicensed guns.

used by the villagers in hunting for game, the most distressing feature being the incessant slaughter, in and out of season, of the females and young of bison, sambhur and spotted deer. Very few genuine game licenses are paid for by these gun-holders, and being ignorant of game laws, they imagine that the possession of guns entitles them to kill any harmless animals that come in their way. Shooting is chiefly indulged in during the summer months, after the crops have been gathered. (N.B.- Figures of sales, at licensed shops, of Curtis & Harvey's black gun powder, slugs or buckshot, and caps for muzzle loading guns, might be obtained for the monsoon and hot weather seasons separately, and compared, to prove the truth of these remarks.) Since the long grass and under growth impede easy driving, or shooting at night over water, the forests are systematically set on fire and burnt.

4. That the chief inducement for such flagrant violation of the game law, is the good price obtainable for skins of all kinds, is beyond question. In every village are established the agents of the Labbays, or Mahomedan skin merchants, who have their depots or mundis at convenient centres. Mr.K.Shama Iyengar, retired Khedda Superintendent, who resides near Chennagiri, has rendered a public service in exposing the nefarious methods adopted by these traders to secure the hides of cattle. The pariahs and low caste people employed by them to collect hides, are even eager in the hope of gain, to excoriate oxen freshly killed by wild beasts, with the result that the tiger or panther, robbed of its quarry, commits further havoc among the village herds. It goes without saying that the skins of all kinds of deer are much sought by the Labbays to export to the Madras tanneries along with other hides.

Trade in skins.

5. The figures in the statement from Shimoga District, furnished

7

furnished with your letter No. J.2544 of 4th March 1909, are very instructive and interesting when compared with similar statistics which I have obtained from the Collector of the adjoining district of North Canara, copy of which is appended hereto. The forest area of the last named district of the Bombay Presidency, is much more extensive than that of Shimoga, being situated both above and below ghauts, but the two districts are similar in many respects. It will be seen that while the number of licensed guns in Shimoga is more than double that of North Canara, a far smaller number of tigers and panthers are accounted for, the disproportion proving that the villagers in this district do not make efficient use of the facilities given to them to destroy dangerous animals, notwithstanding the higher monetary rewards offered by the Mysore Government.

Interesting statistics.

6. ~~The~~ no figures can possibly be obtained as to the number of wild pig, deer bison and other kinds of game shot down, but the following comparison suggests that untold destruction of these animals has taken place.

In North Canara, while the number of gun licenses has been practically the same for five years, the killing of cattle by wild beasts has been reduced to less than one-half annually, i.e. from 885 in 1903 to 418 in 1907. In Shimoga, on the other hand, while the number of licensed guns has increased from 1717 to 2661 in five years, the number of cattle carried off by tigers and panthers has simultaneously risen from 871 to the unprecedented total of 2564! What is the true meaning of these most significant figures? They prove beyond doubt, that bison, deer and wild pig, which are the natural prey of carnivorous animals in the forests, have been exterminated to such an extent that the latter have to depend for their food more than ever on the village cattle.

Returns of cattle killed.

The

The ryots themselves are much to blame for the heavy losses which they suffer, but as these classes are ignorant or blind to the consequences of the wholesale slaughter of game, it is incumbent on the Government to frame more stringent game laws which will indirectly protect the villagers and their cattle.

Man-eaters.

7. Matters may assume a far more serious aspect if, as is apprehended, the scarcity of fodder results in high mortality among cattle through starvation and exhaustion, during the next few months. Tigers and panthers will, doubtless, take to man-eating on a larger scale, and the results will be most deplorable. Personal experience in the Central Provinces and in the Khandesh District of the Bombay Presidency during the famine years 1897 - 1901 compels me to sound a warning note on this subject. This opinion is shared by many sportsmen and well-known authorities. Buchanan, in Chapter XVIII, Vol. II, of his "Travels through Mysore" in the early part of the last century, mentions that certain villages near Honnali were depopulated by maneaters owing to the extinction of deer.

Conditions in Coffee Districts.

8. Although the licensed guns of the Kadur District are more numerous than in Shimoga, I do not believe that game is there destroyed to the same extent. This is due to the presence of the European Coffee planters who exercise a vigilant control over the forests adjoining their estates, and have formed an Association for the preservation of game. Prosecutions under the Game Regulation are encouraged and the consequence is that bison, sambhur, spotted deer, and jungle sheep are more in evidence in the neighbourhood of coffee plantations around Balehonnur, Sallebile, Kalasa and the Baba-budan hills, than in the large state and ghaut forests of the district. Protection of such animals from the depredations of village shikarries increases their numbers, and the beneficial result is also noticeable in the fewer cattle which

fall

19

fall a prey to tigers and panthers. (The figures for Kadur District are one-third of those of Shimoga District)

Inadequate Supervision.

9. Revenue, Forest and Police Officers are unable, for various reasons, to enforce the provisions of the present Game Regulation in and out of season, and the local subordinates of these departments are either too few or too apathetic to deal effectively with the depredations of unlicensed shikarries. I quote the following from the book published by Mr. C.E.M. Russell, Barrister-at-Law, late Senior Deputy Conservator of Forests, Mysore Service, and a keen sportsman:- "It is a sad fact" he writes, "that . . . . . game is rapidly decreasing in numbers, and this is due entirely to the destruction wrought amongst them by villagers, not for sport, but as a means of gain. Day by day, and in every village, poachers are at work as if the sole aim and object of their existence were the extermination of every edible species."

His remarks refer chiefly to the Mysore Province where he served for many years, and the evils deplored by him have been greatly stimulated since the increase of guns and the advent of the Lubbays.

Suggestions.

10. After consulting persons of all classes, including Government officials, planters, land-owners, and patels, I respectfully beg to make the following suggestions, and strongly urge that Government should legislate in the matter at an early date:-

I. The number of licenses granted for guns should not exceed 1,000 for each district, and all unlicensed guns should be withdrawn or confiscated.

II. Guns licensed for protection of crops as above, should be collected and deposited in Taluk Cutcherries after the standing crops have been cut, i.e. between

~~the~~ 1st

~~the~~ 1st February and 30th June, only one gun for self-protection being allowed to the patel or Headman of a village, if necessary. (The damage done to crops by deer is infinitesimal as compared with the havoc wrought by wild elephants, which are protected.),

III. The sales by local vendors of gun powder, bullets, slugs and caps for muzzle-loading guns, should be kept down, or prohibited altogether during the above-mentioned months, except to holders of game licenses.

IV. The sale and export of skins of wild animals, except tiger and panther, for purposes of trade, should be absolutely prohibited.

V. Skins of all kinds which pass through the shops or mundis of Labbay merchants should bear the seal or stamp of the village patel or Police Station House Officer, so that the origin of each can be traced, and a proper record maintained. All hides exported should be spread flat and packed in open bundles,(instead of being folded and stitched in gunny bags,) so that they can be readily examined by police officers at Railway Stations.

VI. Prosecutions under the Game Regulation should be encouraged, Police Constables, Forest Guards and other informers being liberally rewarded out of the fines imposed in successful cases.

VII. In consequence of the diminution of forest game, no game license holder should be allowed to shoot more that two bull bison, and the same number of stag sambhur, spotted and other deer. A similar rule is in force in Kashmere State, the Central Provinces and other parts of India.

VIII. The present fees charged for game licenses should

be

be maintained, but a separate license for small game only, i.e. hare, teal, snipe, etc., should be introduced. For the latter a fee of R. 1/- per mensem, or Rs.4/- for the season (October to March) should be levied and it should be available for all the maidan portions of the Province only. If such licenses are readily obtainable at Taluk Cutcherries and other convenient centres, many sportsmen who do not pursue large game, and others who avoid paying the present fees, will purchase them.

IX. All fees realized on the sale of game licenses should be utilized in employing game watchers or paying informers against any infringement of the Game Law.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

L.Robertson

Superintendent of Post Offices

Shimoga Division.

Accompaniment to Kanara Collector's No.7068 dated 28th November 1908.

	During 1903	During 1904	During 1905	During 1906	During 1907	Remarks.
No. of tigers killed	16	15	26	14	18	
No. of panthers killed	13	33	49	45	43	
No. of cattle killed	885	835	661	557	418	
No. of human beings killed	..	1	8	13	11	
No. of licensed guns	1262	1262.	1277	1271	1272	
No. of licensed shops for the sale of powders, ammunition, etc.	7	7	7	7	8	
Forest area	3187 square miles & 163 acres.					

Karwar,
November 1908.

(Signed) L. C. Swifte,
Collector of Kanara.

G.R.S. 26]

Legs **File No.** 36-04

Serial No. 2

Diary No. of letter replied to _____

No. J 3590 - 3600
Rural
& 1815/09

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, *the* 190 .

Date of issue 18-5-09

Signed by Hn. S Srinivasamurthy

To 1) The Conservator of Forests
in Mysore
2) Deputy Commissioner of
Districts
3) The Revenue Commissioner
in Mysore &
4) The Honorary Secretary,
Mysore Game & Fish
Preservation Assn,
Sakleshpur.

Sir,

In forwarding herewith a Copy of a letter received from Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of Post offices, Shimoga Division and of its enclosure on the subject of further protection of game in this State, I am directed ~~to~~ to request the favour of your furnishing the Govt.

over.

SUBJECT.

Mysore Game & Fish Preservation Association.

3031

Herebellalore P.O. Kadur Dist

Date, May 26th 1909

To

Secretary to the Govt of Mysore
General & Revenue Depts
Bangalore

Leg 36-08
Sl 3

Sir

I reply to your No {3590-3600 / Leg 3608-2} of 18th May, enclosing a copy of letter from Mr Hanson, re protection of game etc.

This Association most fully endorses all the remarks made by Mr Hanson - He has in no way exaggerated the damage done by native Shikarries, encouraged by Lubbay, Skin dealers. Except in the vicinity of Coffee Estates the Game Regulation is practically a dead letter - Netting of Antelope & Small game goes on freely in the Mudan ~~Districts~~ Districts. The Mysore District being continually reported for infringing the laws. The first part of paragraph No 9 of Mr Hansons letter hits the nail on the head "Inadequate Supervision - The Revenue Forest & Police Officers, have other work to do than look

Mysore Game & Fish Preservation Association.

(2)

Date, ... 190

bother

about Game Preservation - Their dubees do not take them into the jungles neither are their sympathees with the movement Private individuals are naturally unwilling to lay information; on account of the odium incurred by neighbours & the great inconvenience & expense of attending a Magistrates Court many miles distant not once, but probably several times

This Assn lodged information about the enormous number of unlicensed guns in the Neilgiris, & I believe Govt got something like 400 guns surrendered. Had these guns been destroyed some good might have been done, but by re-selling them locally, the evil has rather been intensified - Unlicensed guns are still numerous

Paragraphs 10, & 11 of Mr Harrisons letter are excellent suggestions. except IX of Para 11 - Game Watchers have been found practically useless. They have been engaged both by this Association & the Nilgiri Game

(3)

Date,.....190

Game

Association, & while esepensive, do not act as a preventative They soon become known. No one has any control over them once they are out in the jungle & our esperience is that they either sit in a secluded village & write up an elaborate diary, or take some of their friends out, & do a little Shikar on their own account If the Mysore Govt wishes to enforce the Game Reg, & make its rules operative; they must be prepared to appoint a European Officer of active habits, who knows the language well, & who should have been a Shikari to continually travel round the Province instructing the villagers about the Game Reg, working up, & detecting infringements of rules, & place the matter in the hands of the Police. He should not be a Police Officer, but travel as a private individual. The sight of a Police Officer would close all channels of

Mysore Game & Fish Preservation Association.

(4)

Date, ... 190

information

At present the Game Reg is a farce, & a cause of annoyance to Europeans alone. who now protect Game that it may be shot by their native neighbours

And I regret to say that a few in sheer disgust have given out that they will no longer do so.

Several cases have already occured of Europeans infringing the Regulation wilfully -

It therefore behoves the Mysore Govt either to take proper steps to enforce the law, or else to withdraw the Regulation

I have the honor to be Sir

Yours faithfully

Chas Hunt

Hony Secy

Rights Granted by the Reservation Resolution:

No. 13394 OFFICE OF THE REV. COMR. IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 21st June 1909. 190

Legis 36-08
Sl: 4

FROM

Rajakarya Pravina,
A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General & Revenue Departments.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. J. 3590-600/ Legis. 36-08-2 dated 18th May 1909 forwarding copy of letter ~~No.~~ 8.10.4.1909 from the Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, on the subject of further protection of game in the State, I have the honor to state that the letter in question is in my opinion rather an ingenious and forcible representation of the case from the standpoint of the sportsman. There is of course some force in his contention that the existing species of wild animals should not be permitted to become extinct, that the ryots and villagers should not be allowed to slaughter them without distinction of young and old or of the sexes in violation of all rules of sport and that the animals should be encouraged to grow and multiply in order that they may serve to feed the large carnivora and keep them in the jungles instead of allowing them to invade the inhabited tracts in search of domestic animals for prey. It may also be very desirable that the forest tracts should be well stocked with wild animals both herbivorous and carnivorous so that sportsmen may enjoy good sports without any disappointment. But then, we ~~xiii~~ have also to consider the complaints of the ryots that these animals are a standing menace to their crops and the safety of themselves and of their cattle and sheep. The villagers as well as the poorer and landless classes who formerly eked out a scanty subsistence by killing

Rev. Comr.
Form 12.

190 No 3292

From

Rajakarya Pravina,

A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR Esq., B.A., B.L.,

Revenue Commissioner

in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
General & Revenue Departments.

Dated 21st.

Despatched 23rd June 1909.

Received

No. 13394

Enclosure No.

Forwarding opinion on the proposals made by Mr. Lawson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, on the subject of the protection of Game in the State.

or catching wild animals by means of their ~~xxxxxxxx~~ primitive chase or hunt, bitterly complain against the existing Game Preservation Act. Considering that as a result of the Survey and Settlememt operations a stiff land tax is levied and that as a rule no remission of tax or other compensation is allowed to the ryot on the score of the havoc done to the growing crops or difficulties of cultivation caused by the wild animals and that the Forest and Excise Regulations are administered with increasing rigour every day, I think that the interests of our land holders and the labouring classes are entitled to be protected with particular care and that the demands of sport should not be allowed to obscure our solicitude for our ryots.

2. If however, the Government is disposed to consult the needs of sportsmen and to conserve and keep large tracts of forest and jungle stocked with game, it is only fair that the sportsmen should be made to adequately pay for it and that the burdens on the occupied lands in the neighbourhood under particularly unfavourable conditions should be lightened in proportion

3. I therefore regret to state that I am not very favourably impressed with the proposals contained in the letter under reference or the arguments advanced in support of them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

For Revenue Commissioner.

R.S.

The Hon. the Commissioners

Your most obedient servant

Sir:

I have the honour to be,

referred to or the arguments advanced in support of them.

ably impressed with the proposals contained in the letter under

I therefore regret to state that I cannot very favour-

portion.

cularly unfavourable circumstance in the neighbourhood under parti-

burdens on the occupier can in the neighbourhood under parti-

sportsman should be free to adequately pay for it and that the

forest and jungle stocked with game, it is only fair that the

mode of sportsman and to conserve and keep large tracts of

If however the Government is disposed to consult the

to allowed to observe our solicitude for our tyotas

with particular care and that the demands of sport should not

holders and the labouring classes are entitled to be protected

ing rigour every day, I think that the interests of our land

the Forest and Excise Regulations are administered with increas-

difficulties of cultivation caused by the wild animals and that

pect in the score of the heavy duty on the growing crops or

duty no remission of tax or other concession is allowed to the

Exhibitions particularly with land tax is levied and that as a

charge for land bitterly complain against the existing game Pro-

servation Act. Considering that as a result of the Survey and

or cutting wild animals by means of their permanent primitive

W 4/7 464

1909.

J 12.

Legis 36-08
Sl. 5

29

From

Rai Bahadur. M. Muthanna, Esquire,

Conservator of Forests in Mysore.

To

C. S. Balasundaram Aiyer, Esquire, B.A.,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of

His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

General and Revenue Departments.

No. 10928

Dated 28/30 JUNE 1909.

Submitting certain remarks, regarding the proposals made by Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, for the better protection of wild animals.

Office of the Conservator of Forests in Mysore

No. Dated Bangalore, J U N E 1909.

From,

RAI BAHADUR. M. MUTHANNAH, ESQUIRE,

Conservator of Forests in Mysore,

B A N G A L O R E.

To

C. S. BALASUNDARAM AIYER ESQUIRE, B. A.,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

General and Revenue Departments,

B A N G A L O R E.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. J.3590-3600/Legis.36-08-2 dated the 18th May last, I have the honour to submit the following remarks, regarding the proposals made by Mr. Hanson for the better protection of wild animals:--

2. From my general knowledge of the country, I am not disposed to agree with Mr. Hanson that game is being wantonly destroyed for purpose of trade. There is no doubt that in the remote tracts, such as Jagar Valley, the head-waters of the Tunga and other parts not frequented by Forest and Police Officers or European Planters, unlicensed shooting is very rife, but elsewhere there is much less destruction of wild animals than in any part of India I know of. In State Forests which comprise about 8 per cent of the entire area of the State, poaching is rigorously prohibited, and cases of poaching are almost unknown. Any diminution of game that is noticed in any particular tract of country, may at once be traced to the presence of wild dogs, which commit more destruction in a month than all poachers do in a year or more. Therefore if a

liberal

liberal reward is offered for the destruction of wild dogs, more good would result than by placing harassing restrictions on people.

3. As regards trade in skins, I am not aware that there is any large export of the skins of wild animals.

4. Mr. Hanson tries to prove by figures that notwithstanding the large number of gun licenses issued in the Shimoga District, fewer tigers are shot and more cattle are destroyed by tigers than in the North Canara District. The area of State Forests in North Canara is 3187 square miles against 2472 square miles in the whole Mysore State. This fact indicates that a much larger area of North Canara is covered with forest than in Shimoga, and it also inferentially proves that North Canara contains far fewer domestic cattle than Shimoga and that therefore less number of cattle is killed. The manner in which small blocks of State Forests are scattered in the midst of cultivated villages, offering thus a safe refuge to tigers might be another reason for the large number of cattle destroyed in Shimoga.

5. As regards the suggestions contained in para 10 of his letter, I beg to offer the following remarks:--

There is no immediate necessity for any change in the direction recommended, but I would recommend that the present number of gun licenses be not increased. I agree with Mr. Hanson that all unlicensed guns must be confiscated.

II This will, no doubt, ~~efficiently~~ effectively stop poaching, but I fear will cause great discontent, as people would want their guns for shooting carnivora and animals other than game.

III For reasons given in II, I would not support this suggestion.

IV No hardship is likely to be caused by the enforcement of this rule as I do not think our ryots are in the habit of selling skins.

V This might be done. It will affect very few people.

VI A/g o o d s u g g e s t i o n.

VII Proposals have already been submitted to Government on this behalf.

~~IX~~ I agree. I would also add that Amildars be authorized to issue the ordinary 5 rupee licenses applicable to forests other than State Forests and Reserved Lands.

X I would suggest that fees realized by sale of Game licenses be credited to head "Game Preserves", for which we have a separate Establishment now. In most, if not all the British Provinces, such fees are credited to head "Forests".

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Conservator of Forests in Mysore.

A.M.S/26-6-'09.

32

From 190 J 346

The District Magistrate
Chitaldrug District

To The Secretary to the Govt of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
General and Revenue Departments
Bangalore

Dated 3rd
Despatched } August 1909
Received

General No. 43
No.

Enclosure No.

Furnishing opinion on
the matter of the proposals made
by Mr Hanson on the subject
of the further protection of game
in the State.

32

W 43

District Magistrate's office,
Chitaldrug District

Dated Chitaldrug, 3rd August 1909

Legis 36-08
Sl: 6

From

K. Srinivasa Rao, Esquire,
Offg District Magistrate,
Chitaldrug District.

To

K. S. Chennaseshiara Iyer, Esq B.A. B.L.
Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General and Revenue Departments
Bangalore

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. J 3590-3600/Legis 36-08-2 dated 18th May 1909, calling for opinion in the matter of the proposals made by Mr. Hanson on the subject of further protection of game in the State, I have the honor to state that his observations in general do not seem applicable to this District.

2. Regarding his suggestions I beg to offer the following remarks

Mr. Hansons Suggestion No. 1 Gun Licenses are granted after full enquiry and there is no need to limit the number in each District.

Persons in possession of arms without a licence are liable to be prosecuted and I believe the provisions of the Mysore Arms Regulation are sufficiently well-understood and are being satisfactorily enforced

Suggestion No. ii. Such an interference is not, I think, called for. No case has been made out for inaugurating such drastic measures.

Suggestion No. iii. Persons dealing in gun powder, bullets, shot-and caps for muzzle-loading guns are duly licensed to vend such articles. Undesirable persons are never given such licenses. Such shops are inspected by Magistrates and Police officers. It would be impossible to fix a sale limit, as the requirements of each individual would depend upon his capacity to take good aim and to shoot straight

Suggestion No. iv. No case has been made out to promulgate such trade restrictions

Suggestion No. v. Mandies where skins are purchased or stored ought for various reasons to be brought under some kind of supervision. Such mandies should be licensed with a stipulation that a correct record should be

maintained of all skins purchased.

Suggestion No. VI. This is unnecessary, a reward for doing ones duty strictly is not a wholesome measure

Suggestion No VII. This is hardly applicable to the conditions of this District when the majority of license holders are land owning ryots who possess neither the nerve nor the resources to indulge in such a costly pastime..

Suggestion No. VIII. Unnecessary, taking into consideration the condition of this District

Suggestion No IX The present Forest Establishment is sufficient for all such purposes.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

K Srinivasa

Offg: District Magistrate

& Ex Officio Chittagong District

19

From K. Chandy Esq B.A.
Offg. Deputy Commissioner
Mysore District

To K.S. Chandrasekharaiyar Esq B.A.B.L.
Secretary to Government
General & Revenue Depts.

Dated 30th August 1909.

Despatched

Rèceived

General No. 157

No.

Enclosure No.

In forwarding opinions
in regard to
desirableness of Govt
on the proposal
made by the
Postal Superintendent Mr Hanson
of Shimoga

35

No. 157
Enc. No.

OFFICE OF THE Deputy Commissioner,
MYSORE DISTRICT,
Dated Mysore Camp 30th August 1909.

Legis 36-08
Sl. 7

To
K.S. Chandrasekharaiya, Esq., B.A., B.L.
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT
OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No. J. 3590-3600 Legis. 36-08-2 dated 18th May 1909, asking my opinion on the proposals made by Mr Hanson Superintendent of Post offices, Shimoga, to remedy the wanton destruction of game that is now going on in Shimoga and adjoining Districts, I have the honor to state that the rules proposed by Mr Hanson are too stringent and it will not be proper to fix any definite no. of guns for each district. It is however very desirable to widely publish the evil

effects

effects of killing game and to frame rules for regularly supervising the trade in skins of Labbe merchants and prohibiting sale of skins of game animals and for liberally rewarding informants of infringement of the same rules

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
K Beandy

Offg Deputy Commissioner
Mysore District.

190 / G 586

From The Deputy Commissioner,
Tumkur District,
Tumkur.

To The Secretary to the Govt: of
Mysore, Genl:&Rev: Departments,
Bangalore.

Dated 27th August 1909

Despatched 1st September 1909.

Received

General No. 155
No.

Enclosure No.

Forwards opinion made by Mr. Hanson, Supdt. of Post offices Shimoga Division to remove the wanton destruction of Games that is going on in Shimoga and adjoining districts

Office of the

Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur District,

Dated Tumkur 27th August 1909.

1-9-09 Legis 36-08 Sl. 8

From,

K.Doraswami Iyer Esqr:

Deputy Commissioner,

Tumkur District.

To,

K.S.Chandrasekhara Aiyar Esqr: B.A.,B.L.,

Srcretary to the Government of His Highness the

Maharaja of Mysore, General and Revenue Depts.

B A N G A L O R E.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. J.3590-3600/Legis 36-08-2 dated 18th May 1909 calling for opinion upon the suggestions made by Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, for the better protection of game in the State, I have the honour to state that all that seems necessary is to exercise a close watch on the sale of skins in each District and their export therefrom by Rail or road. His suggestion in para 10-V of his letter can be adopted.

The suggestion in 10-VII is also good and can be adopted.

I do not agree to the introduction of a separate licence for small game as the licences now in force are sufficient to cover all requirements and as the fees cannot be considered as excessive.

There should be a closer check over the possession of unlicenced guns and over cases of evading a game licence. It can be proclaimed in every village that the possession of a mere gun license does not confer the right to go after game.

For the rest the provisions of the Game Regulation are sufficient and they should be strictly enforced.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

For Deputy Commissioner.

T.B.M.

111
12/9
Mm.

Yelgo 1309 / 1694

1909. No.

Fm 32

From The Deputy Commissioner
Kadur district

To The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore
Gen & Rev Depttts

Dated 8th } Sept. 1909
Despatched 10th }

Received

General No. 90
No.

Enclosure No. nil

Forwarding opinion on the letter of Mr. Hanson suggesting various methods for the preservation of game in the forests of Shimoga & Kadur districts

38

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,

Kadur District.

Dated, Chikmagalur, the 6th September 1909.

Legis 36-08
Sl: 9

From

K.R.Srinivasa Iyengar, Esquire, M.A.,

Deputy Commissioner,

To

K.S.Chandrasekhara Iyer, Esquire, B.A.,F.L.,

Secretary to the Government of Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.J.3590-3600/Legis. 36-08-2 dated the 18th May last, forwarding a copy of a letter received from Mr.Hanson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, and of its enclosure on the subject of further protection of game in the State, and calling for my opinion on the several proposals made therein, I have the honor to report as follows:-

2. Mr. Hanson has expressed as his conviction that a large amount of Game - deer, bison, etca., - is wantonly destroyed by holders of gun licenses, that in consequence of such indiscriminate and wholesale destruction of the smaller game, the feline species - as the tiger and panther - are obliged to feed on cattle, that this accounts for the increased mortality among cattle from the attacks of wild animals, and that unless such wilful and wanton destruction is prevented, it will go on increasing and the tigers and panthers will eventually take to man-eating.

3. If the assumptions made by Mr.Hanson were correct and supported by facts, his inferences would certainly be irrebuttable and convincing. But it seems to me that Mr.Hanson has in his keenness and enthusiasm for sport, allowed himself to take rather an exaggerated and alarming view of the actualities of the case.

4. In the first place there is nothing to shew that the destruction of the smaller kind of game has increased of late years, so as to give rise to the alarm expressed by Mr.Hanson. I am not aware of the conditions in the Shimoga District in this respect, but as regards the Kadur District, from my knowledge and experience of it during nearly the last two years, I have every reason to believe, that, as is in a way conceded by Mr.Hanson himself in para 8 of his letter, there has been no increase in recent years, - in the wanton destruction of the smaller game by the holders of gun licenses. There have, no doubt, been cases occurring occasionally, of illegal destruction of small game, but such cases are, I believe, on the decrease, and in course of time as the game laws and rules obtain wider currency, they may be expected to show further diminution.

5. The marginal statement shews the cattle mortality from the attacks of wild animals for the past five years from 1904-05. It will be seen that the figures representing the mortality are so oscillating that it is impossible to draw any general deduction therefrom. It may however be safely said from a glance at the statement that though the number of guns licensed has steadily increased, there has not been any such proportionate increase in the mortality of cattle from the attacks of wild animals, as would justify the view taken by Mr.Hanson.

Official year	No. of cattle killed by wild animals	No. of tigers and panthers killed		No. of gun licenses issued	
		Tigers	Panthers	Calendar year	No. of licenses issued.
1904-05	962	19	25	1904	2226
1905-06	1143	8	"	1905	2557
1906-07	1388	12	9	1906	2654
1907-08	810	12	18	1907	3265
1908-09	1064	14	22	1908	3470
Total	5367	65	74		

6. Even if there has been in some Districts any increase in the mortality of cattle from the attacks of wild animals, I do not see why it should be attributed to the destruction of small game by the licensed gun-owners any more than to the increase in the number of tigers and panthers owing to the diminished attention paid to their destruction by sportsmen. The latter view would appear to be borne out in a way by the fact that the increase in the cattle mortality from the attacks of wild animals in the Kadur District has occurred chiefly during the years in which there has been a fall in the number of panthers and tigers killed.

7. Having made the above general observations on the views expressed by Mr.Hanson, I turn to the suggestions contained in paras 10 of his letter:-

i. The first suggestion of Mr.Hanson is that the number of licenses to be granted for any District should not exceed 1000. While fully admitting that the indiscriminate issue of licenses should be discouraged, I think that, considering the differences in the circumstances of one District from those of another, it will not be feasible to prescribe the same maximum for all. So long as the District Magistrates exercise a sound discretion in the issue of the licenses and are guided in such issues by certain definite principles, there can be no necessity or justification at all for restricting their discretionary powers in the manner suggested by Mr.Hanson.

ii. His second suggestion is about collecting and depositing in Taluk Cutcherries, the guns licensed for protection of crops, after the standing crops have been cut, etca, I am unable to recommend the adoption of this suggestion, as it will cause great hardship to the Malnad ryots and will also entail a considerable amount of additional work to the Government Officers, which will be quite disproportionate

to the doubtful advantages intended to be secured by it. The crop season is not confined entirely to the months from July to January. Besides the Coffee, arecanut and other crops which require protection all the year round, there are some crops which are cultivated in the months from February to June and have to be protected from the ravages of wild animals, as deer, wild pigs, jungle sheep, etca., and the removal of the guns from the hands of the ryots during the above months will render them helpless against these animals.

iii. The third suggestion is about prohibiting the sales by local vendors, of gunpowder, etca., during the period referred to in the second suggestion; - I do not think this will serve any useful purpose. Any one who wishes to indulge in shooting in the prohibited months would not be deterred from doing so by this provision, as he would take care to lay in beforehand and when he could obtain it, a sufficient stock of ammunition.

iv. The fourth suggestion is about prohibiting the sale and export of skins for purposes of trade;- I am not aware that any large trade now goes on in the skins of wild animals and that any skins other than those of tiger and panther are much exported. If there were any large trade in them, I would certainly support Mr.Hanson's suggestion to prohibit their transport except under a license; but, as it is, there does not appear to be any need to take such precautions at present.

v. The fifth suggestion is about making the skins passing through the shops of Labbe merchants, to bear a seal or stamp of the village Patel or Police Station House Officer, etca. I believe Mr.Hanson refers here more to skins of wild animals, than to those of cattle. If so, my remarks against suggestion No.iv, apply to this also. If

Mr.Hanson refers here to the skins of cattle, I think it has no material bearing on the question to which his letter relates, and need not therefore be discussed here.

v. The sixth suggestion is about encouraging prosecutions under the Game Regulation by liberally rewarding Police Constables and others informers, out of the fines imposed in successful cases;- I quite agree with Mr. Hanson about the desirability of encouraging the detection and prevention of cases under the Game Rules by granting liberal rewards out of the fines recovered from the accused in successful cases. Provision to this effect may, I think, be well made in the Game Rules.

vii. The seventh suggestion is about restricting the number of bison, etca., to be shot by holders of Game Licenses: This question is engaging the attention of Government on a reference made by the Officer in charge of Game Preserves. The Government have, through the Conservator of Forests in Mysore, called for the opinion of the Deputy Commissioners in the matter, (Vide Conservator's No.9283-40 dated 4th May 1909, and my reply thereto will be forwarded at an early date.

viii. The eigth suggestion is about issue of separate licenses for small Game, etca;- I am afraid this will lead to abuse and I am unable to recommend it.

ix. The ninth suggestion is about utilising the fees realized on the sale of Game licenses in employing Game watchers etca;- I should recommend the employment of Game Watchers if they could be appointed in sufficiently large numbers to be able to guard the whole area covered by the Forests in the District. But we would require quite an army of Game Watchers if we are to do so, and I am sure that the fees recovered from Game Licenses will not go far to cover their pay. I would, however, advocate the

adoption of Mr.Hanson's suggestions to pay rewards to informers in cases which, on the information furnished by them, are prevented by conviction.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

G. Hanumantha Rao

for Deputy Commissioner,

Kadur District.

Jus 31

III 79-VI-1

1909-10 J 1336

From *Deputy Commissioner,*
Bangalore District.

To
The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore
Fmd & Rev. Department

Dated 22nd November 1909

Despatched 23rd

Received

General No.
S No. 292

Enclosure No.

Secretary's No J 3570-76 &
Secs 36-08-2
of 18th May 1909.

Furnishing opinion on
the subject of fruitless hos.
traction of game in the Kol
Mohsin & Sagar Taluks
Sagar, of post offices,
Shimoga Division -

Bangalore & Western.

Deputy Commissioners Office

S. No. 292 / en 1

Bangalore 22nd November 1909. / 23

Legis 36-08 Sl. 10.

From

B. J. Kumarasami Naik Esquire B.A.

Deputy Commissioner

Bangalore District.

To,

R. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar Esquire B.A. B.L.

Secretary to the Government of His Highness

the Maharaja of Mysore

General & Revenue Departments.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. J. 35-90-3600, dated the 18th May 1909, calling Legis: 36-08-2

for my opinion on the subject of further protection of Game in the State proposed by Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division, I have the honor to state that the rules now in force in the matter of Game preservation in the State afford ample protection for all kinds of Game.

There seems to be no necessity for an

an amplification of the rules and all that is required is a strict and proper enforcement of the existing Rules

2. As regards rule 6, proposed by the Superintendent of Post Offices, that is the payment of liberal rewards to Police constables, Forest Guards and other informers, out of the fines realized in successful cases under the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, I am of opinion that the practice would no doubt serve as an incentive to successful detection and willing Co-operation to bring the Offenders to book.

3. Letter No. 4294, dated 18th June 1909, from the District Forest Officer, furnishing

&c

furnishing his views in the matter

is also enclosed

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Reynolds Hitchins

Deputy Commissioner

Bangalore District

mr
2

F.J. 1289 for 09 47

1908-c

From The District Forest Officer
Bangalore District

Encl to Sl. 10

To The Deputy Commissioner
Bangalore District

Dated } 18th June 1909.
Despatched }

Received

General No. 4294
No.

Enclosure No.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your memo J No. 1987
dated 28.5.09 forwarding copy
of letter No. J 3590-3600. dated 18
Legis 36-08-2
idem from the Secretary to the
Government of H.H. the Maharaja
of Mysore, General and Revenue
Departments and calling for my
opinion on letter dated 10.4.09
from Mr. R.W. Hamson, Superin-
tendent of Post Offices, Shimoga
Division re. Mysore Game & Bird
Preservation Regulation II of 1901.

2. In para 2 Mr. Hamson
refers to "Extermination of Game"
In Sub para (i) he refers to the
large No. of licenses as conducive
to this result. He seems to think
that there are too many licensed
unlicensed guns in the village

19/6/09
Just
Reply -

Reminder issued to the
Police Supdt.
30.6.09

From my experience of villages adjoining State and District forests I should say that licensed guns are not too many. The few existing licensed guns are necessary for protection of person and property, no less than crops, from wild animals, thieves and decoits. If there are unlicensed guns they may of course be taken away. It goes without saying that District Magistrate grant licenses very sparingly by after due enquiry through the Police Department. I am aware of cases in which several anxious years are spent before licenses are obtained after elaborate enquiries.

3. With reference to sub para (ii) I have to say that the skins of wild animals are not generally sold in the markets by Labbays like hides of cattle. The skins of deer (ચિંકારા) are forged by the orthodox for spreading them for Seats during prayers and for covering baskets containing their holy clothes. The skins of tigers and panthers are forged almost for similar purposes (ઝાપટા) If this purchase is interdicted, they will be obtained clandestinely. We are selling small ghotla billets by retail sales for public convenience; otherwise they would be smuggled from the jungles and cultivated lands. The above deer skins are useless if converted into hides. Generally Labbays and Skin merchants do no trade in them.

4. As regards sub para (iii) District forests are technically under the protection of the village officials, though who ought to be duly instructed as to the use

and abuse of the licensed guns and to seize unlicensed guns. The highly improved Shikdar's Service now is quite capable of seeing to this. The Reserved State forests so far as my experience goes are not open to the abuses complained of as they are duly provided with protective Establishments. It is well known that even holders of gun licenses are not admitted until copies thereof are sent to such protective Establishments by proper authority.

In para 10 Mr Hanson makes certain proposals.

As regards Sub para (1) I should say that the number of licenses to keep guns for the protection of life and property against wild animals, thieves and dacoits should not be restricted but when they are abused they should be confiscated and the defaulters prosecuted.

6. Sub para (2) seems to be unduly hard upon the ryot. Considering that more than 2/3rds of the population of Mysore is engaged in agriculture to treat them as suggested here seems undesirable. Certainly persons conversant with the home life of the ryot cannot say that he abuses his privileges to such an extent as to call for such restrictions.

7. As regards Sub para (3):— For the foregoing reasons, I should say this prohibition is unnecessary,

8 Sub para (4) seems to be unnecessary after taking the precautions referred to in para 5, above a few skins used for religious purposes referred to should not be so forceably put down.

9. Sub para (5) gives to the village Patel and village Police more authority than desirable in the interest of trade besides entailing extra needless work. As a rule raw sheep and goat skins are packed in gunny bags but hides of other cattle are dried and sent in bundles and not in bags. So this provision is unnecessary.

10. Sub para (6). This is being done.

11. Sub para (7) This is amply covered by Section II Para 3 (a) 2.

12. Sub para (8) This is covered by Section II para 6 (b).

13. Sub para (9). If the Government pleases this may be adopted.

14. In conclusion I beg to state that our rules and Regulations in this behalf are theoretically sufficient but practically they do not operate owing to ignorance on the part of the licensees on the one hand and the officials concerned on the

other

Legis. 36/19-08-09
Serial 11

52

No. 6369/217

District Magistrate's Office,
Kolar District,
Dated Kolar, 8th March 1910.

From

C.Srikantesvara Aiyar, Esqr., B.A.B.L.,
District Magistrate, Kolar District.

To

C.S.Balasundaram Iyer, Esqr., B.A.
Offg: Secretary to the Govt: of H.H. the
Maharaja of Mysore, Genl.&.Rev. Departments.

Sir,

With reference to your predecessor's letter No.J.3590-3600/Legis.36-08- 2 dated 18th May 1909 forwarding copy of a letter addressed to him by Mr. R.W. Hanson, Superintendent of Post Offices, Shimoga Division on the subject of further protection of game in the Mysore State and calling for opinion on the several proposals therein made, I have the honor to state that on a careful study of Mr.Hanson's letter and discussion with those interested in the subject and with my own personal knowledge in the matter, I believe that the facts brought to light by him are all more or less true.

2. If the wholesale distruction of wild game by villagers not for sport, but as a means of gain - ~~situated~~ stimulated thereto undoubtedly by the advent of Labbes - and some times, out of sheer ignorance or thoughtlessness as well, is any longer allowed to continue without adequate check, the natural consequances, in the long run will be that the carnivorous animals robbed of their natural prey will have to depend for their food more than ever on the village cattle &c, which inevitable result the poor ryots do not yet foresee.

3. On the whole, I consider Mr.Hanson's proposal are sound though proposal No.II, withdrawing of guns during the non-

non-crop season seems hardly practicable owing to vast deal of vexation and trouble likely to accrue therefrom both to people and local officers concerned.

4. A restriction, however, in the sale and export of skins will be a move in the right direction, both in the interest of protecting the innocuous game and also the surreptitious theft or killing of the cattle by the local Madigays and other lower classes with a view to consumption or sale of skin. The Labbe merchants may be directed under sufficient penalties to keep regular and simultaneous record of their transactions while a sufficiently long interval should be allowed to intervene before the skins are given over for being tanned, with a view to enable the tracing of the skins of prohibited game or stolen cattle.

5. With regard to proposal No.VIII a license for big game may include the right to shoot small game as well, but idea of having a separate small game license is also a good one.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Palmstad

For District Magistrate,

Kolar District.

From Inverness Lodge Esquire
District Magistrate
Chimoga

To C. S. Balakrishna Iyer Esquire
Off Secretary to Government
Judicial and Rev. Departments

Dated 3rd April 1910

Despatched

Received

General No. 4628

No. 275

Enclosure No.

With reference to his letter No. J 3590 - 3600 / Legis. 26-08-2 dated 18th May 1909, furnishes opinion on the suggestions made by Mr. Hansen, Supdt of Police, Chimoga Dn., on the subject of further protection of game.

GPB—70 reams—27-12-09

54

No. 402
275

District Magistrate's Court
Shimoga 13th April 1910

From,

K. Srinivasachar Esquire,
District Magistrate
Shimoga.

To,

C. S. Balasundram Iyer Esquire, B.A.
Offg Secretary to Government
Judicial and Revenue Departments

Sir

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. P.3590-3600/Legis 36-08-2, dated 18th May 1909, requesting to furnish my opinion on the suggestions made by Mr. Hanson, Superintendent of Post offices, Shimoga Division on the subject of the further protection of game, I have the honor to submit as follows:-

1. As regards limiting the number of licenses for guns.

The number of licenses already granted in this District being 4427 (2215 in Form IV which is valid for every 242 individual of the whole population of the District and 2212 in Form VII which is 1 for every 35 khatedars or 1 for every 333 acres of lands under occupation) in cases without serious inconveniences be limited to 1000 as suggested by Mr. Hanson. Such an

arbitrary limitation would take away from the rural classes residing in isolated forest and hill tracts the only means of self-protection against the inroads of robbers and wild beasts, who placed within their reach. The suggestion overlooks the physical peculiarities of this District and the analogy of North Canara does not apply to totally differing conditions of the Chinoor District. Licenses are granted after local enquiry only to such persons as really require to keep guns either for self protection or for protection of crops. The unlicensed guns are deposited in the Police station until the owners thereof take them back on production of licenses or dispose of them to others who hold licenses on failure to do this within a period of 3 years from the date of deposit, the guns are confiscated according to Rules

II. <u>As regards the collection and deposit of guns licensed for protection of crops from 1st February to 30th June.</u>

I beg to state that this arrangement seems unworkable and does not seem to be called for in as much as license holders are prohibited from employing fire-arms in the pursuit of game. In the heading of Form No. IV, the

word sport may be omitted. I would suggest the issue of licenses in Canarese so that the instructions printed on the reverse may easily be understood by the villagers who hold the licenses.

III. As regards prohibiting local vendors of Explosives from selling during the game season gunpowder sea to others than holders of game licenses.

My own opinion is that this will be needlessly harsh and there is nothing to prevent one from making purchases in advance to defeat the contemplated suggestion

IV As regards the prohibiting of sale of and export of skins of wild animals.

The skins of wild animals are usually produced before the Deputy Commissioner for obtaining rewards as sanctioned in Government Notification No. 3287-8/786-02-03. of the 3rd May 1904. These skins are then sent to the Treasury Officers for disposal by public auction It cannot therefore be said that there is free trade in such skins

V. As regards the suggestion that all kinds of skins passing through the shops or mundies of Cabbery Merchants should bear the seal

or stamp of the village Patel &c.

The suggestion made by Mr. K. Channegar, Retired Khedda Superintendent, quoted in Government Proceedings No. J45-54/Pol 72-07-9 dated 6th July 1908, may be sanctioned and issued in the form of Rules in this respect.

VI. As regards awarding rewards to Police Constables, Forest Guards and other informers of the occurrence of offences punishable under the Game Regulation.

No such encouragement seems necessary as it is the duty of the Police and Forest subordinates to report occurrences of such offences. Encouragement by opening out hopes of liberal rewards may be given to private informers regarding the misuse of the firearms licensed for protection of persons and crops.

VII The suggestion that no license-holder should be allowed to shoot more than two bull bisons and the same number of stag sambhar, spotted and other deer excepting the females of these and immature males of bison referred to in the Rules may be approved and the rule may be amended accordingly.

VIII The suggestion that a separate license should be introduced for small game only i.e. hare, teal, snipe &c and a fee of one rupee per measem or Rs four for the season

(October to March) should be levied may also be approved and the licenses may be made obtainable at Salmon Entcheries from the Auditors

IX For reasons given against N. VI above the employment of game watchers or the paying to informers against any infringement of the Game Law is unnecessary.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

[signature]
2 District Magistrate
Shimoga